



Dorian Mendoza (SFSU 2023)

## **LeUYEN PHAM**

**Vietnamese American**

**Author and Illustrator**

**CALDECOTT Honor Book (2020)**

**Born:** September 7, 1973 (Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam)

LeUyen is an award-winning author and illustrator who based many of her stories on real-life experiences. She started her own business at age nine, selling her drawings of Star Wars characters for a quarter to a dollar each. LeUyen's first book *Big Sister, Little Sister* (2005) focuses on the relationship with her sister and *Outside, Inside* (2021) addresses mental health and illness during COVID-19. Initially, her mother wanted her to become a lawyer, but LeUyen endured and became an art major in college. She won the Caldecott Honor Book award for *Bear Came Along* (2019).